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8 **BEFORE THE**
9 **ACUPUNCTURE BOARD**
10 **DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS**
11 **STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

12 In the Matter of the Accusation and Petition to
Revoke Probation Against:

Case No. D1-2010-145

13 PAUL A. SLIDDERS, L.Ac.
14 2657 Kentia Street
Oxnard, California 93036

**DEFAULT DECISION
AND ORDER**

15 Acupuncturist License No. No. AC 12278,

[Gov. Code, §11520]

16 Respondent.
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18 **FINDINGS OF FACT**

19
20 1. On or about August 22, 2023, Complainant Benjamin Bodea, in his official capacity
21 as the Executive Officer of the Acupuncture Board, Department of Consumer Affairs, filed
22 Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. D1-2010-145 against Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac.
23 (Respondent) before the Acupuncture Board (Board).

24 2. On or about March 17, 2008, the Board issued Acupuncturist License Number AC
25 12278 to Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac. . That license expired on January 31, 2022, and has not been
26 renewed. A true and correct copy of a Certificate of Licensure for Respondent is attached hereto
27 as Exhibit A and is incorporated by reference.

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1 3. In a disciplinary action entitled *In the Matter of the Accusation Against Paul A.*
2 *Slidders, L.Ac.*, Case Number 1A-2010-145, the Board, issued a Decision, effective January 16,
3 2014 (hereinafter 2014 Decision), in which Respondent's Acupuncturist License was revoked.
4 However, the revocation was stayed and Respondent's Acupuncturist License was placed on
5 probation for a period of five (5) years, or until Respondent tendered full payment of all money
6 owed in cost recovery, whichever is longer, along with certain terms and conditions. A true and
7 correct copy of the 2014 Decision is attached as Exhibit B and is incorporated by reference.

8 4. On or about September 29, 2020, in the criminal proceedings entitled *The People of*
9 *the State of California v. Paul Alexander Slidders*, Case Number 20CR06100, in the Superior
10 Court of the State of California, County of Santa Barbara, the Court issued an Order prohibiting
11 Respondent from the practice of acupuncture as a condition of bail or own recognizance release,
12 during the pendency of the criminal action until its final conclusion and sentence. A true and
13 correct conformed copy of the Order is attached as Exhibit C and is incorporated by reference.

14 5. On or about August 23, 2023, Cindy Johnson, an employee of the Board, served by
15 Certified Mail a copy of the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. D1-2010-145,
16 Statement to Respondent and Notice of Defense (2 copies), Request for Discovery, and
17 Government Code sections 11507.5, 11507.6, and 11507.7 to Respondent's address of record with
18 the Board, which was and is 924 Anacapa Street, Suite 2A, Santa Barbara, California 93101. A
19 true and correct copy of the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, the Related
20 Documents, and Declaration of Service are attached as Exhibit D, and are incorporated herein by
21 reference.

22 6. Service of the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation was effective as a matter
23 of law under the provisions of Government Code section 11505, subdivision (c).

24 7. On or about August 25, 2023, the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, the
25 Related Documents, and Declaration of Service were delivered to Respondent. A true and correct
26 copy of the certified mail receipt reflecting delivery is attached here to as Exhibit E, and is
27 incorporated herein by reference.

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1 8. Business and Professions Code section 118 states, in pertinent part:

2 ...

3 (b) The suspension, expiration, or forfeiture by operation of law of a license
4 issued by a board in the department, or its suspension, forfeiture, or cancellation by
5 order of the board or by order of a court of law, or its surrender without the written
6 consent of the board, shall not, during any period in which it may be renewed,
7 restored, reissued, or reinstated, deprive the board of its authority to institute or
8 continue a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee upon any ground provided by
9 law or to enter an order suspending or revoking the license or otherwise taking
10 disciplinary action against the license on any such ground.

11 ...

12 9. Government Code section 11506 states, in pertinent part:

13 ...

14 (c) The respondent shall be entitled to a hearing on the merits if the respondent
15 files a notice of defense, and the notice shall be deemed a specific denial of all parts
16 of the accusation not expressly admitted. Failure to file a notice of defense shall
17 constitute a waiver of respondent's right to a hearing, but the agency in its discretion
18 may nevertheless grant a hearing.

19 10. Respondent failed to file a Notice of Defense within fifteen (15) days after service
20 upon him of the Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation, and therefore waived his right to a
21 hearing on the merits of Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation No. D1-2010-145.

22 11. A Courtesy Notice of Default was served on Respondent on or about September 7,
23 2023. A true and correct copy of said Courtesy Notice of Default is attached to the Default
24 Decision and Order as Exhibit F, and is incorporated herein by reference.

25 12. The Declaration of Deputy Attorney General Rebecca L. Smith attesting to the
26 foregoing facts is attached hereto and is incorporated herein by reference.

27 13. California Government Code section 11520 states, in pertinent part:

28 (a) If the respondent either fails to file a notice of defense or to appear at the
hearing, the agency may take action based upon the respondent's express admissions
or upon other evidence and affidavits may be used as evidence without any notice to
respondent.

14 Pursuant to its authority under Government Code section 11520, the Board finds
15 Respondent is in default. The Board will take action without further hearing and, based on
16 Respondent's express admissions by way of default and the evidence before it, contained in

1 Exhibits A through P, finds that the allegations in Accusation and Petition to Revoke Probation
2 No. D1-2010-145 are true.

3 15. The Acupuncture Board further finds that pursuant to Business and Professions Code
4 section 4959, the costs of investigation and enforcement in the Accusation and Petition to Revoke
5 Probation total \$9,547.50, based on the Certification of Costs. (See Exhibit K.)

6 **DETERMINATION OF ISSUES**

7 1. Based on the foregoing findings of fact, Respondent Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac. has
8 subjected his Acupuncturist License No. No. AC 12278 to discipline.

9 2. The Board has jurisdiction to adjudicate this case by default.

10 3. Pursuant to its authority under California Government Code section 11520, and based
11 on the evidence before it, the Board hereby finds that the charges and allegations contained in
12 Accusation No. D1-2010-145, and the Findings of Fact contained in paragraphs 1 through 15,
13 above, and each of them, separately and severally, are true. A true and correct copy of
14 Accusation No. D1-2010-145 and the related documents and Declaration of Service are attached
15 as Exhibit D.

16 4. The Acupuncture Board of California is authorized to revoke Respondent's
17 Acupuncturist license based upon the following violations alleged in the Accusation:

18 (a) Convictions of Substantially Related Crimes: Respondent was convicted of
19 crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of an acupuncturist pursuant
20 to section 4955, section 4955, subdivision (b), section 4956, and section 490 of the Code (See
21 Exhibits G through I attached hereto and incorporated herein);

22 (b) Violation of the Acupuncture Licensure Act: Respondent violated the terms of
23 the Acupuncture Licensure Act pursuant to section 4955, subdivision (d) of the Code (See
24 Exhibits G through J attached hereto and incorporated herein).

25 (c) Unprofessional Conduct: Respondent engaged in actions and conduct which
26 would have warranted the denial of his acupuncture license, pursuant to section 4955, subdivision
27 (i) of the Code (See Exhibits G through J, attached hereto and incorporated herein);

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1 (d) Failure to Comply with Probation Condition Number 6: Obey all Laws.
2 Pursuant to Condition 6 of the 2014 Decision in the matter entitled *In the Matter of the*
3 *Accusation Against Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac.*, Case Number 1A-2010-145, Respondent failed to
4 obey all laws while on probation, insofar as he was convicted of substantially related crimes. (See
5 Exhibits B through D and G through H, attached hereto and incorporated herein); and

6 (e) Failure to Comply with Probation Condition Number 13: Cost Recovery.
7 Pursuant to Condition Number 13 of the 2014 Decision in the matter entitled *In the Matter of the*
8 *Accusation Against Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac.*, Case Number 1A-2010-145, Respondent failed to pay
9 the costs owed from the investigation and prosecution of that matter. (See Exhibits B, D, and J,
10 attached hereto and incorporated herein).

11 **ORDER**

12 IT IS SO ORDERED that Acupuncturist License No. No. AC 12278, heretofore issued to
13 Respondent Paul A. Slidders, L.Ac., is revoked.

14 Respondent is ordered to reimburse the Acupuncture Board the amount of \$14,752.50,
15 which consists of \$5,205.00, for the remaining cost recovery owed from the 2014 Decision and
16 \$9,547.50, for the Board's investigative and enforcement costs of the instant matter, Case No.
17 D1-2010-145. The filing of bankruptcy by Respondent shall not relieve Respondent of his
18 responsibility to reimburse the Board for its costs. Respondent's Acupuncturist License may not
19 be renewed or reinstated unless all costs ordered under Business and Professions Code section
20 4959 have been paid.

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1 ~~Pursuant to Government Code section 11520, subdivision (c), Respondent may serve a~~
2 ~~written motion requesting that the Decision be vacated and stating the grounds relied on~~
3 ~~within seven (7) days after service of the Decision on Respondent.~~ The Board in its discretion
4 may vacate the Decision and grant a hearing on a showing of good cause, as defined in the
5 statute.

6 This Decision shall become effective on December 1, 2023.

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8 It is so ORDERED November 1, 2023.

9 Original Signature of File.

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11 FOR THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD
12 DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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